

## State of Maine Procurement Justification Form

This form must accompany all contract requests and sole source requisitions (RQS) over \$5,000 submitted to the Division of Procurement Services.

INSTRUCTIONS: Please provide the requested information in the white spaces below. All responses (except signatures) must be typed; no hand-written forms will be accepted. See the guidance document posted with this form on the Division of Procurement Services website (Forms page) for additional instructions.

### PART I: OVERVIEW

Department Office/Division/Program:		Inland Fisheries and Wildlife/Wildlife Resource Assessment Section			
Department Contract Administrator or Grant Coordinator:		Brad Allen, Wildlife Biologist Brenda Lord, Wildlife Secretary			
(If applicable) Department Reference #:		N/A			
Amount: (Contract/Amendment/Grant)	<b>\$17,986.49</b>	Advantage CT / RQS #:	<b>CT-09A-20210331*2614</b>		
CONTRACT	Proposed Start Date:	<b>04/5/2021</b>	Proposed End Date:	<b>12/31/2023</b>	
AMENDMENT	Original Start Date:		Effective Date:		
	Previous End Date:		New End Date:		
GRANT	Project Start Date:		Grant Start Date:		
	Project End Date:		Grant End Date:		
Vendor/Provider/Grantee Name, City, State:		<b>USDA, APHIS, WS</b> <b>PO Box 979043</b> <b>St. Louis, MO 63197-9000</b>			
Brief Description of Goods/Services/Grant:		<b>To reduce the breeding population of Great black-backed Gulls (GBBG) on Department-owned Flag Island and adjacent islands using DRC-1339, a tested agent used in Maine to protect nesting seabird colonies, in this case, specifically Common Eiders. This is a significant part of a research project between MDIFW, US Fish and Wildlife Services (USFWS), US Geological Service (USGS), and Biodiversity Research Institute (BRI) to determine duckling survival rates through gull management.</b>			

### PART II: JUSTIFICATION FOR VENDOR SELECTION

Mark an "X" before the justification(s) that applies to this request. (Check all that apply.)

	A. Competitive Process		G. Grant
	B. Amendment		H. State Statute/Agency Directed
<b>X</b>	C. Single Source/Unique Vendor		I. Federal Agency Directed
	D. Proprietary/Copyright/Patents		J. Willing and Qualified
	E. Emergency		K. Client Choice
	F. University Cooperative Project		L. Other Authorization

### PART III: SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

Please respond to ALL of the following:

**State of Maine  
Procurement Justification Form**

**PART III: SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION**

**1. Provide a more detailed description and explain the need for the goods, services or grant to supplement the response in Part I.**

Common Eiders are a USFWS Focal Species and a high priority of the Sea Duck Joint Venture. Region 5 plays a primary role in addressing the conservation and management actions necessary for reversing their population decline given the primary range that this subspecies occupies. This work serves to evaluate a priority management action identified in the draft Common Eider Focal Species Plan, and links management actions to the draft Atlantic Flyway Gull Management Plan. Improving our understanding of the survival rates of common eider ducklings has been identified as one of the highest priorities in the recent report to the SDJV: Implications of Demographic Uncertainty for Harvest Management of North American Sea Ducks – Guidance for Prioritizing Sea Duck Joint Venture Research and Monitoring Investments.

This work is needed to evaluate the effectiveness of gull control as a management tool for increasing common eider duckling survival in localized areas, to ensure accountability in the issuance of permits that authorize such control programs. It is believed that extremely low rates of duckling survival are the greatest limiting factor affecting the population growth and stability of common eiders in the Gulf of Maine.

Implications will include recommendations on the effectiveness of this management tool as a means of increasing duckling survival in key areas of eider breeding, and whether this approach can be implemented at a scale that is measurable. Results can also be used to inform policy decisions on authorizing take for migratory birds and evaluating its effectiveness for addressing management and/or conservation objectives.

**2. Provide a brief justification for the selected vendor to supplement the response in Part II.**

USDA Wildlife Services is uniquely qualified, licensed, and permitted to conduct wildlife damage management actions using these specific tools, protocols and chemicals. Few in Maine are licensed to use these products for these activities. Wildlife Services has the proper equipment and staff to handle all the logistical activities that require preparation of avicide, its application and disposal of lethally controlled gulls.

**3. Explain how the negotiated costs or rates are fair and reasonable; or how the funding was allocated to grantee.**

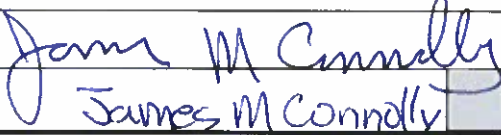
The financial plan that includes costs of personnel, vehicles, supplies and materials appear fair and reasonable. This is potentially a very labor-intensive undertaking and will require a large crew and multiple trips to the study islands.

**4. Describe the plan for future competition for the goods or services.**

This investigation is scheduled to be concluded after the two field seasons of required application of the avicides. The efficacy of these treatments will be determined after all duckling surveys are completed and analyzed after year 2.

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### PART IV: APPROVALS

<b>Signature of requesting Department's Commissioner (or designee):</b>	<i>By signing below, I signify that I approve of this procurement request.</i>		
			
<b>Printed Name:</b>	James M Connolly	<b>Date:</b>	4/15/2021
<b>Signature of DAFS Procurement Official:</b>	DocuSigned by: <i>Debbie Jacques</i>		
<b>Printed Name:</b>	1DFA565D481F42E... Debbie Jacques	<b>Date:</b>	4/20/2021

